



BRANCHING OUT

Creating Connections to End Sexual Violence

Fall 2007

Volume 1, Issue 1

Welcome to the Inaugural Issue of “Branching Out- Creating Connections to End Sexual Violence.”

by Terri DeWalt, Program Coordinator of Sexual Assault Services

Welcome to *Branching Out*! The purpose of this newsletter is to inform the Racine community of the activities and initiatives of Sexual Assault Services (SAS), a program of Lutheran Social Services, and to create connections between SAS and the Racine community as we work together to end sexual violence.

We are very excited to begin this quarterly newsletter, and we hope that you find it to be informative and that it motivates you to learn about how you can help end sexual violence in our community. Each edition of *Branching Out* will be comprised of columns that provide you with information on different aspects of sexual violence and the services we provide. These columns will include information about how to support sexual assault survivors, how to take action to support survivors on a legislative level, how to become involved in our program, as well as information on how to work towards the primary prevention of sexual violence.

As we begin our first community newsletter, we thought it may be useful to provide a history of SAS. Sexual Assault Services was established after the Department of Justice recognized that Racine was one of the few counties in the state of Wisconsin that did not have what is called a “Sexual Assault Service Provider” (SASP). A SASP is a rape crisis center responsible for providing a core set of services to sexual assault and abuse survivors. Many rape crisis centers around the state and country were established in the 1970’s and already had a strong history of providing support to, and advocating for, the rights of sexual assault survivors. Despite the fact that Racine is one of the largest counties in the state, as of the late 1990’s, we did not yet have a rape crisis center.

Thankfully, this problem came to an end when, as a result of the diligence, courage, and hope of a number of key individuals, SAS was established in February of 1999.

When SAS began, the program consisted of one half-time position. This half time position was responsible for establishing a 24-hour crisis line, recruiting a team of volunteers to respond to the hospital 24-hours a day, provide crisis counseling and support groups to victims and their families as well as provide community education and awareness. Somehow, one by one, these important tasks were completed, and by July of 1999 SAS was up and running.

Due to what was seen as a clear need for these services, SAS’ funding increased the next year, and we were able to hire our first full-time position. This trend continued when we received funding for our second full time staff person in October of 2002. The following year SAS received another half time position to open our Burlington outreach office. (See page two for a complete timeline of SAS’ development.) At this point in time, SAS employs six people, totaling over 3 ½ fulltime positions, including a Volunteer and Community Education Coordinator, a Rural Service Coordinator, a Prevention Educator, three Therapists, a Legal Advocate and a Crisis Response Worker. This dedicated team works every day to provide the sexual assault survivors in our Racine community with the compassionate care they deserve, and to be active agents in our efforts to end sexual violence.

If, as you read through the newsletter, you have any questions or comments, or would like to learn more about what we do, please feel free to contact me at tdewalt@lsswis.org or by calling our office at (262) 619-1634. Thank you and enjoy!

—Terri

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Face to Face

By Lora Schultz Reinders

This column "Face to Face" will be used to discuss issues related to working directly, face to face, with individuals affected by sexual violence. For the first installment of "*Branching Out*" I will be providing you with more information about our counseling program. Even if you are not a therapist or social worker, your interaction with a survivor is important!

Counseling services at SAS range from short-term crisis counseling to longer term therapy. Our ability to provide both short and long term therapy is something unique about our program! Many programs limit services to crisis intervention only. At SAS, the length of counseling is decided by the therapist and their client. Our counseling program serves all ages. SAS has seen children as young as 4 years old, as well as more mature clients. Both male and female survivors are served as well.

Group therapy is also a very effective mode of treatment for survivors of sexual abuse and assault. SAS offers therapy groups on an as-needed basis. Different types of groups that have been offered include groups for: adolescent survivors, adult survivors, adults who were molested as children, and caregivers of children who have been sexually abused. Our groups can only come together when we have enough interested participants. If you know of someone who would benefit from a group, please call our office. Once we have enough people who are interested in attending the same group, we will set it in motion. Currently we are planning a group for adolescent survivors to begin in January, so please call our office with any referrals.

A major benefit of the counseling program through Sexual Assault Services is that all services are offered free of charge to clients. Our counseling program is funded through federal, state and local grants serving victims of crime. Some of our funding even comes from restitution payments made by offenders! Our program is funded in part by the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant, which utilizes funds collected from offenders nationally to disperse to programs such as ours. A second grant we receive is a statewide grant through the Sexual Assault Victim Services. We also receive funding for prevention education through the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault. Lastly, we receive local funding through the United Way of Racine County. A big thank you to our funding sources!

Sexual Assault Services has three master's level therapists on staff. Terri DeWalt has been a therapist for 6 years and is currently seeking her Ph.D. in counseling psychology. Vicki Biehn has been providing therapy services at SAS for 3 years and also has much experience in group facilitation. You will also meet Terri and Vicki elsewhere in this newsletter. I have been with SAS for two years now, with my experience and education focusing on working with children and families.

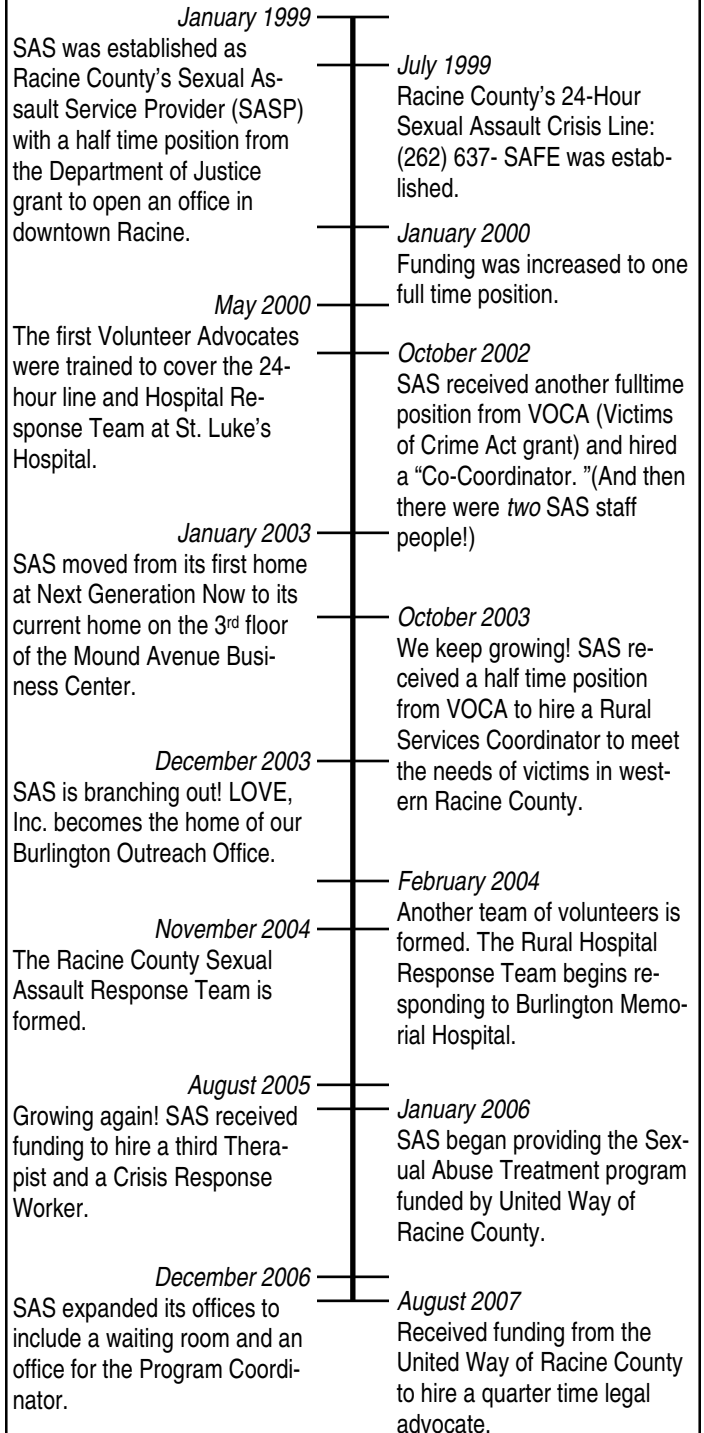
If you would like to make a referral for counseling services give us a call. During the past year we have had a waiting list. Wait time tends to vary from about a week to a month or so, although it will change depending how many people are seeking services at any one time. Clients are assigned to therapists based on which therapist becomes available first, however, if a client has a request to see a

certain therapist we try to honor this if at all possible. It is important that each person feel comfortable with her or his therapist!

I hope you have learned a little bit more about the counseling services offered at SAS. Comments and suggestions for future topics are always welcome. Please email me at Ireinder@lsswis.org

— Lora

SAS Timeline





Legislative Update Corner

By Vicki Biehn

Are You Interested in Making a Big Difference for Survivors?

This column of the newsletter is designed to let you know what is happening at the state and national level when it comes to sexual violence laws and issues. The column will let you know how you can make a big difference in our community with a minimal amount of time and effort. As you think about participating in our state's legislative process; you may have many thoughts floating around in your mind, such as: "Why would I want to have one more thing to do?" Or, maybe, "I don't know how to participate in the legislative process" Or "I feel too intimidated or shy about contacting my representative." Rest assured, I felt all those things too. It just seemed too overwhelming and scary to me. But, I eventually took the plunge and now, I wonder what ever took me so long. Becoming involved in the legislative process feels very empowering, and helps me to feel like I have a voice. Even though I do not always get the response I would like from my representative or senator, I do feel like I took action and voiced my opinion. This feels wonderfully satisfying and invigorating!

It is really very simple to get involved in the legislative process. Basically, all you need to do is contact The Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault (WCASA) policy specialist Mike Murray at mikem@wcasa.org and sign up for their action alerts. WCASA is a statewide organization created to support and complement the work of Wisconsin's community-based sexual assault service provider programs and other organizations working to end sexual violence. WCASA sets a legislative agenda each year of efforts that are important to the treatment of sexual violence victims in our state. This agenda is what they plan to work on in the upcoming legislative year at our state level.

In 2007/08 WCASA is working on quite a few areas that impact sexual assault survivors. The areas include: payment for sexual assault forensic exams by the state, compassionate care for victims of sexual assault, protecting victim privacy, supporting a victim's right to be accompanied by an advocate, changing housing laws to support victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking, support anti-human trafficking legislation, including a sexual assault provision in Wisconsin's W-2 Family Violence Option, supporting a gender violence act in Wisconsin, and supporting mental health parity in Wisconsin.

If you want more information on the legislative priorities for the year you can go to <http://www.wcasa.org/docs/legagenda2007-2008whole.pdf>. At this site each initiative is broken down and explains what needs to be done with current laws in order to support survivors of sexual violence better. Another site that provides information on what has happened recently in the legislative agenda and what is coming up is <http://www.wcasapolicyupdate.blogspot.com/>. This site has past success stories and provide information on how you can get involved and support new legislation on the state and federal level.

Once you sign up for the WCASA action alerts, you will then get e-mails that explain exactly what needs to be done to help support the certain bill or issue. Generally speaking you will be asked to call or e-mail your representative and ask them to support the bill. Usually when you call your representative you will get an aide and then you can leave a message for your representative asking him or her to either support a bill or not. They usually ask you for your name; address and phone number. I can assure you that once you do this once or twice all the anxiety goes away and you can then relax and know that you made a big difference for survivors of sexual assault.

If you have any questions about how to get involved in our legislative process please feel free to contact me at 262-763-6226 ext 31 or vbiehn@lsswis.org.
— Vicki

What to do if someone you know is sexually assaulted...

- **Believe...**

The most important thing you can do for someone who has been sexually assaulted is to believe that the assault happened. Assure her or him that the assault was not her or his fault. No matter the circumstances, sexual violence is never the fault of the victim.

- **Offer support and safety...**

Offer to stay and listen if your friend or family member wants to talk. Help to explore her or his options (SAS can help define options if that is needed). Support whatever decisions your friend or family member makes.

- **Discuss with the victim the option of getting medical attention...**

If the assault just happened, encourage your friend or family member to go to the hospital before showering or changing clothes. A specially trained nurse can check for injuries, provide medical treatment and collect forensic evidence.

- **Discuss the possibility of reporting the assault...**

There are many issues to consider when deciding whether to call the police. A sexual assault Advocate can help the victim sort through those issues. To report the assault, contact the police department in the jurisdiction where the assault occurred (city of Racine, Town of Mt. Pleasant, etc.) If you have questions, call SAS at 637-SAFE.

- **Remember that your friend or family member may not want to be alone...**

Explore with the victim who the people are that she or he can rely on during this difficult time. Be sensitive to her or his need to process what happened.

- **Encourage seeking support or counseling...**

There is help available to people who have been sexually assaulted. Provide her or him with the number to our 24-Hour Crisis Line: (637)-SAFE. In addition, long-term counseling, legal advocacy and crisis intervention are free of charge and available to any sexual assault victim in Racine County. The number to our Racine office is (262) 619-1634, and the Burlington office number is (262) 763-6226 x 31. There are people who specialize in these issues and want to help.

Meet Our Staff...



Terri DeWalt

Hello my name is Terri DeWalt and I am the Program Coordinator of Sexual Assault Services.

I joined SAS in August of 2001, and as Coordinator of the program, I have the opportunity to complete a wide range of activities. I provide the overall supervision of staff in the program as well as am responsible for program development and grant writing. Beyond the administrative aspects of my position, I also provide direct services to survivors. I am one of three therapists at SAS and I specialize in working with adolescents who have been sexually victimized. I have a masters degree in Counseling, am a Licensed Professional Counselor and a Nationally Certified Counselor. I also provide support groups, legal advocacy, medical advocacy and help staff our 24-hour crisis line and hospital response team. Lastly, I am Co-Chair of the Racine County Sexual Assault Response Team and the Eastern Racine County Family Violence Community Coalition; two organizations committed to the sensitive treatment of victims in our community.

Beyond my work at SAS, I am also a Ph.D. student in Counseling Psychology at Marquette University. I have completed the coursework for the degree and am currently working on my dissertation on the "Primary Prevention of Sexual Violence and the Community Readiness Model." I also love animals of all kinds and have a wonderful, but clumsy horse named Northern Lights, an adorable but troublemaking cat named Seymour and an Oregon newt named Jake. When I am not busy working at SAS or on my dissertation, I enjoy horseback riding, swimming, traveling and scuba diving.



Samantha Sustachek

My name is Samantha Sustachek, and I have served as Sexual Assault Services' Volunteer and Community Education Coordinator for the past two years. In May of 2003, I graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Parkside with a B.S. in Psychology and a minor in Criminal Justice, and I have been able to draw on much of that coursework during my time at SAS.

My job duties are varied, and every work day is different, but in general, I am responsible for three things: coordinating the volunteer program, giving presentations to educate the community, and direct victim service.

As coordinator of the SAS volunteers in the city of Racine, I recruit and help to train interested individuals. On a monthly basis, I am responsible for getting volunteer and staff coverage for the on call calendar for the crisis line and hospital response team. I also write a volunteer newsletter and help conduct a monthly breakfast/refresher training to keep our Advocates up to date on the program.

The community education component of my position is even more varied. I have given presentations to college students, women in a halfway house, Girl Scout troops, and entire Catholic grade schools. Sometimes the purpose of these presentations is volunteer recruitment, and sometimes the purpose is education about our services, but no matter what kind of presentation I am giving, the focus is always on raising community awareness of sexual assault and the SAS program.

Finally, my direct service responsibilities involve being on call on the crisis line and hospital response several times per month. I also provide some personal and legal advocacy services to clients in the SAS office.

In addition to these duties, I keep track of the statistics for the SAS program as required by our funders (always a challenge!). I am a member of both the Eastern and Western branches of the Racine County Family Violence Community Coalition and serve as a member of the Sexual Violence Subcommittee and secretary of the Eastern Coalition. I am also a member of the Racine County Sexual Assault Response Team. One of my favorite aspects of my job is helping to moderate a drama group for middle and high school students called Teen + Vice. The kids write and perform original skits about issues facing teens today.

When I am not working and coordinating SAS volunteers, I myself do quite a bit of volunteering with my husband Kevin at the Racine Theatre Guild (RTG). Occasionally, I help out backstage, but more often than not, you will find me on stage performing...usually in musicals. I have been an RTG volunteer since high school, and have had roles in eight shows.



Cindy Nickolai

My name is Cindy Nickolai, and I joined the Sexual Assault Services program in August of 2006. I am employed as a part-time Crisis Response Worker, which means I am on call to the Burlington Memorial Hospital. When I receive a call from the emergency room, I provide support and information to the survivor and her/his family and friends. Also I may remain with the survivor during the police report and the forensic exam if the survivor wishes.

I received my training at the SAS Western Racine County office in Burlington from Vicki Biehn, the SAS Rural Services Coordinator and Counselor.

I recently brought two new volunteer advocates into the program, one of whom is my daughter. They have both recently completed their training and are ready to be on call.

Meet Our Staff...



Vicki Biehn

I would like to tell you all a little about myself. I was raised in Crested Butte, Colorado. This is a beautiful and quaint ski area town in the southwest area of Colorado. I love to ski and play in the mountains. I lived in this remote ski area town until 1986 when I married my husband Eddie. We then moved to Boone, North Carolina where I went to graduate school at Appalachian State University and completed my masters in counseling.

We moved to Wisconsin in March of 1992. Eddie grew up in SE Wisconsin and we decided we would like to live by one of our families. Shortly after we moved here I started volunteering at Women and Children's Horizons in Kenosha. I co-facilitated a support group for women who had been sexually abused or assaulted. In the fall of 1993 I started working for KASA (Kenoshans Against Sexual Assault) as a group facilitator and have been working with survivors of sexual assault ever since.

I started working for Sexual Assault Services (SAS) in November of 2003. I was hired to work part-time as the Rural Services Coordinator. The program felt that it was important to be more accessible to Western Racine County residents by offering them a more convenient location to access our services. Also, at this time SAS was starting to look

for Volunteer Advocates to respond to the Burlington Memorial Hospital for SANE (sexual assault nurse exams) cases. SAS opened the Western Racine County office in December of 2003. Our office is located at The LOVE, Inc Community Center on 480 S. Pine St. This is an ideal location for survivors and their family members because there are many services that are offered here, so people can access our services anonymously and conveniently.

My main duty is to provide direct services to Western Racine County sexual assault survivors and their families. I provide personal, medical, and legal advocacy as well as counseling services to survivors and their families in Western Racine County.

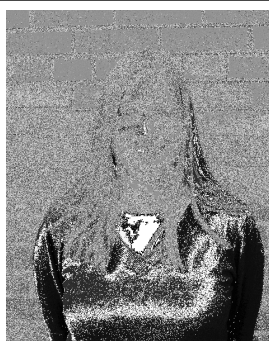
I am also responsible to coordinate, recruit, and train the Western Racine County Volunteers Advocates who will respond to the Burlington Memorial Hospital Emergency room for sexual assault exams.

Another responsibility that I enjoy is providing presentations to community groups. I have presented to a wide variety of groups for SAS. I have presented to girl scouts troops, service organizations, incarcerated men, and all ages of school children. Some of these presentations were for the purpose to recruit new volunteers and some were to inform the audience about sexual violence issues.

I have been an active member of the Western Racine County Family Violence Coalition since December of 2003. In July of 2007 I became one of the co-chairs of this coalition along with Laurella Thomas. Laurella is the SANE Coordinator for Burlington Memorial Hospital. The WRC Coalition is currently working on primary prevention of sexual and domestic violence. I am also a member of our Sexual Assault Taskforce that works to coordinate services to sexual assault survivors in Racine County.

In addition, I like working with The Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault (WCASA) on their legislative agenda policy. Please see the related article on how you can get involved in this area and make a difference for survivors locally, statewide and nationally.

If you ever have any questions or concerns about survivors or our services, please give me a call at 262-763-6226 ext 31 or e-mail me at vbiehn@lsswis.org and I will be happy to assist you.



Lora Schultz Reinders

I am Lora Schultz Reinders and I was hired as a Therapist for Sexual Assault Services in September of 2005 after completing my Master's Degree at Loyola University Chicago. I also recently began working as a Legal Advocate for SAS. Through my graduate school education I received field experience at Children's Service Society, in both their Milwaukee and Racine locations, as well as spending a year as a school social work intern at Millburn School in Wadsworth, Illinois. I received my undergraduate education at University of Wisconsin – Parkside with Bachelor of Science Degrees in both psychology and sociology. Beginning in 2000, I worked in the social work field at DDIS, providing case work services to adults with developmental disabilities.

Outside of work, I am married and have one son. Our household pets include two dogs and three hermit crabs. Taking the dogs for an evening walk is something I look forward to daily. I also love to read, and am often in the middle of three or four books at a time. I especially like reading memoirs, and am a huge fan of the Harry Potter series.



Helping Hands

By Samantha Sustachek

In the first issue of "Branching Out," Sexual Assault Services would like to introduce the community to our program and services. In the future, this column will be used for updates and news regarding the SAS volunteer program, but in this issue, it will provide a background and history of volunteering at SAS.

Volunteers are a vital part of the Sexual Assault Services program and have been since May of 2000, when the first Advocates were trained to respond to the hospital in Racine. A second team of Volunteer Advocates joined the program in February of 2004 to respond to the Burlington hospital when SAS expanded into western Racine County. SAS volunteers greatly outnumber SAS staff, and without them, the agency would not be able to provide some very important services to the Racine community. Volunteer Advocates do numerous things for SAS, but most notably, they answer the 24-hour crisis line and are a part of the hospital response team.

The crisis line is answered via a cell phone that Advocates carry for one or more 24-hour shifts per month. When a survivor or support person of a survivor calls 637-SAFE, they know that Advocates are available to provide emotional support, answer questions, give community referrals, and most importantly, just listen. SAS knows that the crisis line is a very important service to the community, because volunteers answered over 200 calls in 2006.

The hospital response team is another critical service provided by SAS volunteers. When a survivor goes into the hospital (St. Mary's in Racine or Memorial Hospital of Burlington) for a forensic exam to collect evidence following an assault, hospital protocol dictates that an Advocate is called in to be with the survivor. The Advocate provides emotional support and information to both the survivor (and any support people who might be present) during the exam itself, and often during the police report as well. SAS Advocates respond to the hospital an average of about once per week.

All SAS Volunteer Advocates receive 15 hours of training in crisis intervention, listening skills, good communication, and sexual assault issues. They do not need prior experience in the field. In fact, we believe that any caring, compassionate individual can be trained to make a fantastic Volunteer Advocate. Trainings are held three to four times a year and are scheduled flexibly based on the availability of the incoming group of volunteers. Monthly Volunteer Breakfasts/Refresher Trainings are also held to keep our current volunteers updated and informed.

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a SAS Volunteer Advocate or would like more information about the program, please contact Samantha Sustachek (ssustachek@lsswis.org or 262-619-1634, Ext. 14). We hope to welcome you soon to one of the most challenging, but ultimately one of the most rewarding volunteer positions around!

— Sam

Stopping Sexual Violence in Our Community

By Terri DeWalt

Why do people rape?

What makes someone sexually assault someone else?

What kind of person can molest a child?

We at Sexual Assault Services are often asked these questions, and they are hard questions to answer. The questions, however, do lead us to a growing area of practice and research in the field of sexual violence called "primary prevention."

For years, advocates and professionals have spent a great deal of time and energy on activities and programs that we thought would help reduce sexual violence. These programs often consisted of telling women how to reduce their chances of becoming assaulted by walking in groups, taking self defense classes and not leaving their drinks alone.

However, at some point, we started to think about the logic of our efforts and realized that much of our work was misguided. As much as we cared about stopping sexual violence in our community, our country and our world, our efforts were doing little to actually reduce the incidence of sexual assault. We realized that telling women how to not become a victim does not change the fact that there are people committing acts of sexual violence. We realized that instead, we need to begin focusing on the reasons why sexual violence happens in the first place.

It is not that there is no value in talking with potential victims (both women and men) about how to avoid being raped. And I certainly do think that self-defense classes are a useful tool for building up confidence and increasing someone's knowledge about how to escape an attempted sexual assault.

Cont'd. on pg. 7

SAS Wish List

- **Volunteer Advocates!**
- **Gift cards/certificates from Target, Office Depot or other discount stores**
- **Courage to Heal book series**
- **New clothes for victims at the hospital (t-shirts, sweat pants, underwear, etc.)**
- **Gift bags filled with body lotions & shower gels to be given to victims at the hospital**
- **General art and craft supplies**



Call For Submissions...

If you are a survivor or you know a survivor who would like to submit a poem, short story, artwork or editorial for publication in this newsletter, please email it to Samantha Sustachek (ssustachek@lsswis.org).



However, these very worthy efforts are never going to *end* sexual violence. If you think about it, it is really quite simple. You cannot end sexual violence by changing the behaviors of potential victims. The only thing that happens when you change the behavior of a potential victim is that the perpetrator finds a different victim. The rape still occurs- just to someone else.

That is not what we are looking to do. We are looking to *end* sexual violence, not alter *who* the victim is going to be.

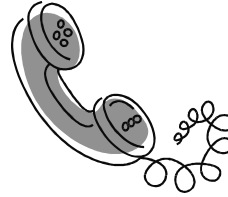
And that brings us back to primary prevention. Primary prevention involves identifying the root causes of sexual violence and then changing the attitudes and behaviors that contribute to those causes. So what are the root causes? Well, truth be told, our society holds many beliefs, attitudes and behaviors that contribute to social norms that allow sexual violence to thrive. For example, many of today's songs, music videos and movies perpetuate the image of women as sexual commodities. These media influences narrowly define a woman's value by her sexuality and do not take into account the complexity of her as a whole person. When we narrowly define someone's value, it is easier to see that person as inferior, and in some cases, commit an act of violence against them.

So what can *you* do to help end sexual violence?

- **Be aware of your language.** Words are very powerful, especially when spoken by people with power over others. Never use language that is demeaning to someone of a particular gender, racial identity or sexual orientation.
- **Communicate.** Our discomfort with talking honestly and openly about healthy sexuality increases the risk of rape. This is especially true when coupled with a society packed with sexually explicit images and music lyrics.
- **Speak up.** You will probably never see a rape in progress, but you will see and hear attitudes and behaviors that promote a culture that accepts the occurrence of rape. When you see or hear something that is demeaning to a certain group of people, say something, or intervene in some way, to express your disapproval. Examples of this may be simply saying "hey, that is not cool" or "would you want someone to talk about your sister like that?"
- **Support Sexual Assault Services.** Sexual Assault Services has been working to end sexual violence in the Racine community for eight years, and now is a great time to get involved. If you are interested in joining us in our work against sexual violence, please call us at (262) 619-1634 or email Terri DeWalt, the Program Coordinator, at tdewalt@lsswis.org.

It is possible to end sexual violence. It just takes all of us working together to change its true causes.

Survivor Resources



Sexual Assault Services
24-Hour Crisis Line:
(262) 637-SAFE (7233)

National Sexual Assault
Hotline (RAINN):
1 (800) 656-4673

Wisconsin Coalition
Against Sexual Assault:
www.wcasa.org

National Sexual Violence
Resource Center:
www.nsivrc.org



SAS Third Quarter Statistics July—September 2007

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Crisis Line Calls..... | 72 |
| Racine Hospital Visits..... | 11 |
| Burlington Hospital Visits..... | 4 |
| Legal Advocacy Sessions..... | 11 |
| New Counseling Clients..... | 18 |
| Counseling Sessions..... | 121 |
| Community Presentations..... | 4 |

Coming Soon at SAS...

Beginning in January 2008, SAS will be offering a support group for adolescent survivors of sexual assault. Please call our office at (262) 619-1634 if you would like to refer a client for this group.



On Thursday, April 3rd, 2008, SAS will hold Racine's 5th annual Take Back the Night. Please mark your calendars for this important event!





Sexual Assault Services
1220 Mound Ave., Suite 304
Racine, WI 53404

Contact Us!

SAS Racine Office
1220 Mound Ave. Suite 304
Racine, WI 53404
262-619-1634

SAS Burlington Office
480 S. Pine St.
Burlington, WI 53105
262-763-6226 Ext. 31

24 Hour Crisis Line: 262-637-SAFE (7233)

Stay Connected!



Join our News and Events email update list! Would you like to receive information on upcoming SAS events and volunteer opportunities? Email Samantha Sustachek at ssustachek@lsswis.org with "SAS news and events" in the subject line and she will include you in all SAS news and events related emails.

Sexual Assault Services seeks to create a safe and compassionate environment to help promote the healing of sexual assault survivors and their support people.